

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1726
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2011; March 23, 2011, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 19, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 19, 2011,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1726 By: Zaffirini

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the development of measurable learning outcomes for
1-11 undergraduate courses at public institutions of higher education.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
1-14 amended by adding Section 51.96851 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 51.96851. LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR UNDERGRADUATE
1-16 COURSES. (a) In this section, "institution of higher education"
1-17 has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

1-18 (b) To foster a transparent student learning environment at
1-19 institutions of higher education and to facilitate the universal
1-20 articulation of undergraduate courses that are transferable for
1-21 credit among all institutions of higher education, each institution
1-22 of higher education shall identify, adopt, and make available for
1-23 public inspection measurable learning outcomes for each
1-24 undergraduate course offered by the institution other than:

1-25 (1) a course with a highly variable subject content
1-26 that is tailored specifically to an individual student, such as an
1-27 independent study or directed reading course; or

1-28 (2) a laboratory, practicum, or discussion section
1-29 that is an intrinsic and required component of a lecture course.

1-30 (c) An institution of higher education may adopt learning
1-31 outcomes for a course under this section that are the same as or
1-32 based on those identified for that course by the institution's
1-33 recognized accrediting agency.

1-34 (d) In consultation with institutions of higher education,
1-35 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt any rules
1-36 the coordinating board considers appropriate for the
1-37 administration of this section.

1-38 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-39 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-40 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-41 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-42 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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